GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ATOMIC ENERGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3033
ANSWERED ON:23.08.2006
URANIUM RESERVES
Nayak Shri Ananta;Subba Shri Moni Kumar

Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:

:

(a) whether large uranium reserves exist in various parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a huge uranium reserve has been found in Meghalaya;

(d) if so, the nature and the extent of this reserve;

(e) whether these uranium reserves are not being properly tapped; and

(f) if so, the action plan proposed to be prepared for proper exploitation of these reserves?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER`S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN)

(a) & (b) Moderate resources of Uranium exist in various parts of the country. These resources are grouped in two categories based on the geological and economic considerations viz. Reasonably Assured Resources(RAR) and Estimated Additional Resources (EAR-I). The RAR category is estimated at 77,185 tonnes of U3O8 and EAR-I category is estimated at 23,525 tonnes of U3O8 (total resources of 1,00,710 tonnes of U3O8).

(c)&(d) Uranium deposits to the extent of 16,400 tonnes have been estimated in West Khasi Hills District of Meghalaya.

(e) & (f) Plans have been prepared for tapping these resources. The Uranium Corporation of India Limited (UCIL), a Public Sector Undertaking of this Department is planning to commence commercial exploitation of these deposits, after obtaining various statutory clearances. Pre-project activities are in progress.